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RUEHSQ/AMEMBASSY SKOPJE IMMEDIATE 0824
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TAGS: PREL NATO PGOV MK GR IT

SUBJECT: ITALIAN FM CALLS GREEK FM TO PRESS FOR MACEDONIAN
NATO ACCESSION

REF: STATE 32646

Classified By: Acting Political Minister Counselor Jonathan Cohen for r
easons 1.4 b and d

(C) Poloff delivered reftel points asking Italy to weigh in with Greece regarding Macedonian NATO accession to Italian NATO desk officer Carlo Battori on March 31. Battori said Italy strongly shared the USG position regarding NATO enlargement at Bucharest and reiterated the strong Italian preference to see the Adriatic-3 join together. Later on March 31, FM D'Alema called FM Bakoyannis. According to Battori, D'Alema had not made any inroads, and Bakoyannis had been inflexible. Battori noted that it seemed the issue would have to be resolved at the "highest-levels" during the April 2 NATO Heads of State dinner.

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